



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

## San Diego Commission for Arts and Culture San Diego Public Library

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Thursday, January 21, 2010

**CONTACTS:** Toni Robin  
858.483.3918  
trobin@sandiego.gov

Marion Moss Hubbard  
619.236.5848  
mhubbard@sandiego.gov

### *Branch Library Unveils Creative Education Space for Kids and Families*

*San Diego* – Mayor Jerry Sanders was on hand at the Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa Branch Library (District Six) to cut the ribbon at San Diego’s newest learning and education space. Young students from Soille San Diego Hebrew Day School were among the first to run, jump, play...and learn at “FairyTail Mesa,” an innovative education space created especially for children 5 and younger and their families.

“This unique partnership between the City Commission for Arts and Culture, the First 5 Commission of San Diego and the San Diego Public Library has brought this very special place to life for San Diego families,” explained Mayor Jerry Sanders. “It is just the kind of collaborative project the City looks for to leverage limited resources and develop long lasting, creative solutions for our community.”

FairyTail Mesa, created by artists Kipp Kobayashi and Noel Karten in collaboration with child development expert Donna Beveridge, is a place where children can learn through art, exploration and play. The education space takes its cue from the natural environment of the mesa as well as the proximity to the airport and vernal pools.

“We are very pleased with the results of this project,” said Supervisor Ron Roberts from the County of San Diego Board of Supervisors. “Children learn by exploring their environment. It was a natural fit to pair libraries with this interactive and educational space for kids.”

The First 5 Commission of San Diego provided the funding for this worthwhile project. “This preschool area will have a lasting benefit for the young children of San Diego County,” stated Nick Macchione, First 5 San Diego Commissioner.

“This children’s learning place will enhance the already distinctive design and appeal of the Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa Branch that opened in December 2006,” said District 6 Councilmember Donna Frye. “It is exciting to know that FairyTail Mesa will be part of this new generation’s childhood memories of their community library.”

**NOTE TO EDITORS:** A representative selection of high quality digital images is available on request from the library curator.



#### [About the First 5 Commission of San Diego County](#)

The Commission's mission is to lead the San Diego community in promoting the vital importance of the first 5 years of life to the well-being of children, families and society. The Commission's services for young children include healthy development services, oral health, access to healthcare, early care and education, school readiness and parent education. The Commission's vision is that all children ages 0 through 5 are healthy, are loved and nurtured, and enter school as active learners.



#### [About the City of San Diego Commission for Arts and Culture](#)

The mission of the City of San Diego Commission for Arts and Culture is to vitalize the City by supporting the region's cultural assets, integrating arts and culture into community life and showcasing San Diego as an international tourist destination. The Commission for Arts and Culture also supports non-profit organizations, neighborhood arts programs, festivals, public art, cultural tourism and innovative programming which all contribute to the quality of life, the economy and the vibrancy of San Diego.



#### [About the San Diego Public Library](#)

As the largest library system in the region, the San Diego Public Library serves a population of more than 1.3 million people. Its mission is to respond to the information needs of San Diego's diverse communities; ensure equal access to local, national and global resources; anticipate and address the educational, cultural, business and recreational interests of the public; and develop and provide welcoming environments. Learn about other events at the San Diego Public Library's Central Library and 35 branches, find links to numerous additional resources, or search for materials in the Library's online catalog.

# # #